

Internal chaos and strife must be averted in the beaten Axis nations, by international policing; and the economy of these peoples must be managed until stability of government is restored, lest starvation and despair there spread their cankers of unrest throughout the world. International trade must be world-managed, in the interest of all nations, for we have learned only too well that the world cannot go forward in peace and hope while any of its parts are desperately ill.

If ever there was an undertaking that called for local handling, by states and cities, to support and round out international and National efforts, this program of post-Victory planning does. Fortunately, Maryland is well prepared. Our house is in order, financially and in other ways. If and when cessation of war industry production threatens dislocation of Maryland's economy, and the spectre of unemployment once again hangs over people, there are media at hand with which this threat can be met effectively.

Of the utmost importance, too, if there should ever result a drastic curtailment of employment, is the trust fund to Maryland's credit of \$47,500,000 at the Unemployment Compensation Board. This huge amount, built up over the years, and reserved by the benefit of Maryland's workers in every field, will go far, indeed, to alleviate the demands of any period of recession.

I mention these items because I feel that business and professional men in the times ahead will be called upon to play a much more active part in the functioning of government than before. Officials can plan and direct but the controlling power of public opinion will be the final judge of what must be done. Also it will be reassuring to the people if their own citizens of business experience and professional judgment are called into service by the government to a greater extent than ever before in the period of reconstruction.

Anyone who might ever have entertained doubts as to the prospects of America and the United Nations in this war has ample reason for restored confidence in the thrilling stories of the unconquerable spirit of American fighting forces at Guadalcanal, Midway, in the Coral Sea, in the Solomons, and on all the far-flung battle lines. That spirit is simply the spirit of America, that spirit that brought the early settlers to Maryland and other States, that urged them to dare forests and prairies and mountains in their westward search for better things, that bolstered their arms in every hour of crisis faced by our Nation from the earliest days.

America won't be beaten in this war because it is simply inconceivable to the spirit of America that defeat could come. Democracy, with all its freedoms and privileges that have been the life's blood of our people for three centuries and more, is so precious that death itself is a small price to pay for its preservation.